



Land North of Bryn Lane

Wrexham

Biosecurity Risk Assessment

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G9134.03.001 Site Location Plan
G9134.007B Phase 1 Habitat Survey

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 TEP was commissioned by Net World Sports Ltd. in February 2024 to prepare a Biosecurity Risk Assessment in support of a hybrid planning application for the development of the land to the north of Bryn Lane, Wrexham Industrial Estate, Wrexham, Wrexham County Borough (here after referred to as ‘the site’). The location of the site is shown in Drawing G9134.03.001.
- 1.2 The Biosecurity Risk Assessment has been produced in order to identify the potential effects on Great Crested Newts (GCN) and how any effects will be avoided or mitigated. This Biosecurity Risk Assessment considers invasive non-native specific and specific diseases.
- 1.3 Good biosecurity practice refers to a way of working that minimises the risk of contamination and spread of animal and plant pests and diseases and non-native species.
- 1.4 One of the most significant threats to amphibian conservation is the Chytridiomycosis disease caused by the fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*. This disease may have been responsible for an 80% reduction in amphibian numbers world-wide. Chytrid (as it is colloquially known), has been detected in the UK, although we do not yet fully understand the risk posed to our native amphibians. Biosecurity measures must be practised to avoid further spreading this potentially lethal disease beyond that caused by natural vectors.
- 1.5 No invasive non-native plant species have been recorded on the site during extended Phase 1 habitat surveys and hedgerow surveys undertaken in December and March 2021 and August 2022 (Drawing G9134.007B). It is an offence to cause, or allow, the spread of any species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in the wild. Any person who plants or otherwise causes to grow in the wild any specimen which is of a species of plant included in Part 2 of Schedule II of The Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order (2019) is guilty of an offence.
- 1.6 The main biosecurity risk to the site is posed by boots, vehicles and equipment brought in from other sites where amphibians may be present.

2.0 Biosecurity Procedures for Site Contractors

- 2.1 In order to prevent the spread of Chytrid and invasive plant species between sites the following procedures should be carried out by any contractors working on site. As a minimum a licensed Ecological Clerk of Works will supervise the works and implement toolbox talks. A preliminary working method statement would support this work.
- 2.2 The following procedures would be carried out before all works:
- Clean footwear between visits by removing leaves, soil and other organic material;
 - When appropriate spray clean footwear with disinfectant until it runs off;
 - Remove mud and organic debris from tyres, wheels and wheel arches;
 - Clean and disinfect tyres and wheels; and
 - Clean and disinfect any equipment before leaving the site.
- 2.3 A dedicated area for cleaning of contractor's footwear should be provided on site and be clearly signposted. Boots must be cleaned on arrival and departure. Wheel washing facilities for machinery should also be provided. All plant and equipment brought on to site should be brought in clean and washed down prior to removal.
- 2.4 It is proposed that carpet/carpet tiles are placed at the site entrance and that these are soaked with a Virkon solution. All machinery entering/exiting the site will then drive over this matting which will disinfect the wheels on a daily basis. Machinery will then be washed down thoroughly once a week with Virkon solution.
- 2.5 In addition to the above, a shallow metal tray will be placed at the site entrance also containing a Virkon solution. All contractors will be required to walk through this when entering and exiting the site to ensure their footwear is thoroughly disinfected. This solution will be topped up as and when required.
- 2.6 All staff working on the site must be made aware of the biosecurity issues relating to the spread of Chytrid and invasive plant species. This Biosecurity Method Statement should be displayed prominently on site and all contractors made aware of the procedures. Any subconsultants used on site should also

be made fully aware of the biosecurity issues and a copy of this method statement supplied to them.

2.7 Previous surveys have identified the following invasive, non-native species within 2km of the site:

- Canadian waterweed *Elodea canadensis*
- Giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*
- Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*
- Himalayan cotoneaster *Cotoneaster simonsii*
- Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica*
- New Zealand pygmyweed *Crassula helmsii*
- Water fern *Azolla filiculoides*
- Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* x
- Montbretia *Crocasmia x crocosmiiflora*

2.8 Below are some images of the Schedule 9 invasive plant and Invasive Alien Species (IAS) species you may encounter, if observed within the development site the presence of these plants should be raised to TEP as a matter of urgency:



Figure 1: Giant Hogweed



Figure 2: Canadian waterweed



Figure 3: Himalayan balsam

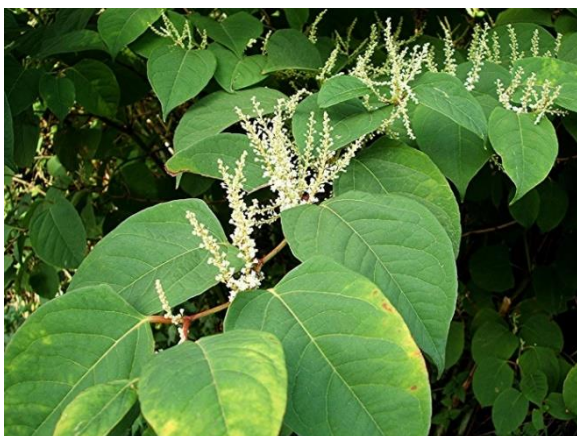


Figure 4: Japanese knotweed



Figure 5: New Zealand Pygmyweed



Figure 6: Water fern



Figure 7: Rhododendron



Figure 8: Montbretia Crocosmia

3.0 Activity Risk Assessment

An activity risk assessment specific to the site is attached.

Table 1: Risk Assessment Table

	Activity	Risk (High, Medium or Low)	Control measures needed	Risk after control measure implemented	Control Measures in place? No	Yes
1	Geotechnical investigations.	Low	Boots and other equipment to be sterilized before going on site and when leaving site each day.	Low		TBC
2	Cut and fill/levelling operations.	Medium	1. Ensure all contractors are aware of bio-security control measures associated with invasive species. 2. Disinfect and sterilize all equipment including footwear before and after each visit. 3. All debris, plant fragments and mud should first be scrubbed off and rinsed with water. Disinfection should comprise spraying with Virkon solution (1 mg/ml) for 1 minute; 4. All used disinfectants should be disposed of appropriately – aim to make up the amount required so no disposal needed. Virkon, once made up into solution is effective for 5-7 days, is biodegradable and is a DEFRA approved disinfectant.	Low		TBC

3	Use of excavator, other plant and associated equipment e.g. tarpaulin	Medium	Ensure excavator and other plant are cleaned before entering and leaving site, and that the excavator and other plant sticks to designated access routes. Sterilize wheels, bucket and tarpaulin before going on site and when leaving site each day.	Low		TBC
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Drawings

Drawing 1: Site Location Plan (Ref G9134.03.001)

Drawing 2: Phase 1 Habitat Survey (Ref G9134.007B)

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